

What I Claim Is:

Claim 1 - A compule for storing dental composite material to be extruded from the compule using a dispenser in the preparation or repair of a dental restoration, said compule comprising:

A cylindrical body having an orifice at one end thereof through which the dental composite material is extruded and a head having means at the opposite end thereof to facilitate the extrusion of said dental composite material using said dispenser, said body being composed of a thermally conductive plastic having a thermal conductivity in the range of between 1.0 w/mk and 500 w/mk.

Claim 2 - A compule as defined in claim 1 further comprising a heating element composed of an electrically conductive material contiguous with or defining the body of said compule and a pair of electrical contacts connected to said heating element to form a series electrical circuit through said heating element when connecting said contacts to an external power supply.

Claim 3 - A compule as defined in claim 2 wherein said heating element is formed of an electrically conductive plastic.

Claim 4 - A compule as defined in claim 2 wherein said heating element is formed of an electrically conductive plastic material, which is both electrically conductive and thermally conductive.

Claim 5 - A compule as defined in claim 1 wherein said heating element is arranged in a spiral geometry.

Claim 6 - A compule as defined in claim 5 wherein said heating element surrounds the body of said compule.

Claim 7 - A compule as defined in claim 2 further comprising an insulating plastic material for separating the heating element into sections.

Claim 8 - A compule as defined in claim 7 wherein said insulating plastic material extends lengthwise of the body of said compule.